

We claim:

1. A process for transparently shielding a device or an enclosed area that can cause or is sensitive to electromagnetic interference, comprising at least partially surrounding the device or area with a visible light-transmissive film comprising a flexible support, an  
5 extensible visible light-transmissive metal or metal alloy layer and a visible light-transmissive crosslinked polymeric protective layer.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the metal or metal alloy layer is substantially continuous, the process further comprising connecting at least one grounding electrode to the metal or metal alloy layer.

10 3. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the metal or metal alloy layer comprises silver and the crosslinked polymeric layer comprises an acrylate polymer.

4. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film comprises a base coat layer between the support and the metal or metal alloy layer.

15 5. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film comprises two or more metal or metal alloy layers.

6. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein an interface between the metal or metal alloy layer and an adjacent layer within the film has been subjected to an adhesion-enhancing treatment, or one or more adjacent layers within the film comprise an adhesion-enhancing adjuvant, whereby the corrosion resistance of the film is increased.

20 7. A process according to claim 2, wherein the grounding electrode comprises a tape containing fibers or particles that penetrate the crosslinked polymeric layer.

8. A process according to claim 1, wherein the film has a perimeter the majority of which is connected to a grounding electrode.

25 9. A process according to claim 1, wherein the film has a perimeter all of which is connected to a grounding electrode.

10. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has a length and an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is strained in a tensile mode by 5% of its length.

11. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has a length and an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is strained in a tensile mode by 10% of its length.

12. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 45° angle.

13. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 90° angle.

14. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 180° angle.

15. An electromagnetically shielded article comprising a device or enclosed area that can cause or is sensitive to electromagnetic interference, wherein the device or area is at least partially surrounded with a visible light-transmissive film comprising a flexible support, an extensible visible light-transmissive metal or metal alloy layer and a visible light-transmissive crosslinked polymeric protective layer.

16. An article according to claim 15, wherein the metal or metal alloy layer is substantially continuous, and wherein at least one grounding electrode is connected to the metal or metal alloy layer.

17. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the metal or metal alloy layer comprises silver and the crosslinked polymeric layer comprises an acrylate polymer.

18. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film comprises a base coat layer between the support and the metal or metal alloy layer.

19. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film comprises three or more metal or metal alloy layers.

20. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein an interface between the metal or metal alloy layer and an adjacent layer within the film has been subjected to an adhesion-enhancing treatment, or one or more adjacent layers within the film comprise an adhesion-enhancing adjuvant, whereby the corrosion resistance of the film is increased.

5 21. An article according to claim 16, wherein the grounding electrode comprises a tape containing fibers or particles that penetrate the crosslinked polymeric layer.

22. An article according to claim 15, wherein the film has a perimeter the majority of which is connected to a grounding electrode.

10 23. An article according to claim 15, wherein the film has a perimeter all of which is connected to a grounding electrode.

24. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film has a length and an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is strained in a tensile mode by 5% of its length.

15 25. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film has a length and an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is strained in a tensile mode by 10% of its length.

26. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 45° angle.

20 27. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 90° angle.

28. An article according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the film has an electromagnetic shielding capability that is retained when the film is bent at a 180° angle.

25 29. An electromagnetically shielded article comprising a device or enclosed area that can cause or is sensitive to electromagnetic interference, wherein the device or area is at least partially surrounded with a visible light-transmissive film comprising a flexible support and extensible visible light-transmissive first and second metal or metal alloy layers separated by a visible light-transmissive crosslinked polymeric protective layer.

30. An article according to claim 29, wherein the first and second metal or metal alloy layers are substantially continuous.